DOCKET NO.: MSFT-3486/307557.01 **PATENT**

Application No.: 10/815,067

Office Action Dated: February 28, 2007

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-28. (Canceled)

29. (New) A grid canvas, comprising

a canvas;

a gridline on the canvas, wherein the gridline is one of a plurality of components on the canvas;

an element on the canvas, wherein the element is one of the plurality of components on the canvas; and

a property of the gridline, wherein the property is a relationship of the gridline to the element on the canvas, and the relationship is maintained between the gridline and the element.

30. (New) The grid canvas according to claim 29, wherein the gridline is defined by at least one of:

a row;

a column; or

at least one row and at least one column.

- 31. (New) The grid canvas according to claim 30, wherein the row or the column are, respectively, a virtual row or virtual column.
- 32. (New) The grid canvas according to claim 29, further comprising a gridline bounding box that includes the element.
- 33. (New) The grid canvas according to claim 32, wherein the gridline bounding box comprises a plurality of rows and columns that contain the element.

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34. (New) The grid canvas according to claim 32, further comprising margin settings within

the gridline bounding box for providing desired offsets to the element.

35. (New) The grid canvas according to claim 29, wherein a gridline defines a border of the

canvas.

36. (New) The grid canvas according to claim 29, wherein the relationship of the gridline to

the element on the canvas is defined as an explicit value.

37. (New) The grid canvas according to claim 29, wherein the relationship of the gridline to

the element on the canvas is defined as an auto value.

38. (New) A method for creating a grid canvas, comprising

identifying a canvas;

identifying a gridline on the canvas, wherein the gridline is one of a plurality of

components on the canvas;

identifying an element on the canvas, wherein the element is one of the plurality of

components on the canvas;

identifying a relationship of the gridline to the element on the canvas;

changing a property of at least one of: the canvas, or the at least one of the plurality of

components on the canvas; and

maintaining the relationship of the gridline to the element on the canvas.

39. (New) The method according to claim 38, wherein the step of identifying a relationship

of the gridline to the element on the canvas is repeated for a plurality of gridlines and a

plurality of elements.

40. (New) The method according to claim 38, further comprising adding a gridline

dynamically to the canvas.

41. (New) The method according to claim 38, further comprising:

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overlaying a grid on the canvas, wherein the grid comprises a plurality of gridlines; identifying a relationship of at least one of the plurality of gridlines to at least one of the plurality of components on the canvas.

42. (New) The method according to claim 38, further comprising adding a component on the grid.

43. (New) The method according to claim 38, further comprising: placing the gridline on the canvas according to a predetermined relationship of the

gridline to at least one of the plurality of components on the canvas.

44. (New) The method according to claim 38, further comprising

placing the gridline on the canvas;

identifying a relationship of the gridline to at least one of the plurality of components on the canvas according to the placement of the gridline on the canvas;

45. (New) The method according to claim 38, further comprising adding a component to the canvas; maintaining the relationship of the gridline to the element on the canvas.

46. (New) The method according to claim 38, wherein the gridline is defined by a plurality of rows and columns that define a plurality of virtual cells, and at least one of the plurality of components spans a plurality of the virtual cells.

47. (New) The method of claim 46, further comprising adding a component to the canvas, wherein the added component inhabits at least one of the same cells of the plurality of virtual cells inhabited by the at least one of the plurality of components.

48. (New) The method of claim 38, further comprising determining a gridline bounding box for the element.